D 8920

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File S.B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 8920
Date 39

Wayside Station,

Date December 30, 1938

Subject Re G. Kochneff.

Made by and Forwarded by Chief Inspector Andrew.

Sir,

The following is a copy of entry in Wayside Occurrence Book dated November 5, 1938.

3.05 p.m. Mrs. Kochneff, 150, Baikal Road, reported her son, George Kochneff missing since 6 p.m., October 31. (Circulated over teleprinter as follows:- "3.53 p.m., 5-11-38. Missing since 6 p.m., 31-10-38 a male Russian named George Kochneff age 16 years height 5'6" wearing grey suit, brown hair brushed back. Ref. W. 3.59 p.m. SCC.")

The following is a copy of entry in Wayside Occurrence Book dated November 12, 1938.

6.30 p.m. Mrs. Kochneff came today to the Station and reported that her son George Kochneff, age 16, residing with her at 150 Baikal Road missing since 6 p.m., 31-10-38. Description circulated. (Circulated over teleprinter as follows:- "6.40 p.m. 12.11.38. Missing since 31.10.38 at 6 p.m. Russian boy named George Kochneff age 16, last seen wearing grey suit with Brown Flannel lumber jacket with zip. Ref. W. 6.42 p.m. WKC."

Accompanied by Mrs. Kochneff, Sergeant Beresovsky visited the Salvation Army Hostel and there found a youth named Kochneff but he was not the same person as the one reported missing.

Accompanied by Mrs. Kochneff, police on December 29, visited houses 645-7 Broadway but the youth was not found there and the occupants denied knowing him.

The following is a copy of entry in Wayside Occurrence Book dated December 23, 1938.

12.15 p.m., 23-12-38. At 11.20 a.m., Mrs. D. D. Petrovna, residing in Lane 682 House 5 Route Bourgeat came to the Station and reported that her son named V. Ignateavitch, 14, working as an apprentice with M. Bogudin, watchmaker, residing at Lane 50 House 6 Ward Road missing since 18-12-38 from the second mentioned address where he resided and worked. Circulated.

Circulated over teleprinter as follows:- "3.50 p.m., 23-12-38. Missing since the 18-12-38 a Russian boy named V. Ignateavitch age 14, from his home on Lane 50 House 6 Ward Road. Ref. W. 3.53 p.m. WCC."

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
31 DEC. 1938
CRIME BRANCH

FORM NO. 3
G. 40M-1-38

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No......

REPORT

(2)

.....Jayside.....*Station,*

Date December 30th 38.

Subject (in full).....

Made by.....*Forwarded by*.....

Accompanied by Mrs. D. D. Petrovna, Sergeants Walker and Beresovsky visited houses in Dent Lane occupied by Russians and Gypsies and enquired for the missing boy. They were told by the tenents he had been there but had left that morning for an unknown detination.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

C.I.

Officer i/c.

D. O. " D " Division.

FM. 2
G. 55M-1-38

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 1, Special Branch

REPORT

File No. .....

No. S. B. D. Strength, 38

Date 19 38

Subject: Article in the "Russian Voice" of 16-12-38 criticising the Police for failing to take action in order to locate three missing boys.

Made by: S.S.A. Frodsley. Forwarded by: C. Crawford.

Several days ago Mrs. L. Rochneff, mother of one of the boys mentioned in the attached translation (P.Petroff), called at this office. She stated that on or about November 8, 1938 she reported to the Wayside Police Station the case of disappearance of her son, George Rochneff, 17, who until that time attended the Russian School in Seihsiwei Road. She did not hear of her son until recently when on a photograph which appeared in the "Shanghai Times" on 13-12-38 she recognized him among the three deportees from Japan who arrived in Shanghai on 12-12-38 in the s.s. "Suwa Maru". She again reported the matter to the Wayside Station, but was under the impression that little attention was paid by the police to this case. According to her private information, the boy was in a bad company here and for some reason was reluctant to return to his home. She was advised to let the police know whatever information she had as to her boy's movements in Shanghai and she left, mentioning that she would do so in a letter to the Commissioner of Police. Being communicated by phone on 23-12-38 she stated that she had abandoned her intention of writing to the Police and informed the undersigned that she had been told that her son was likely to be found at 645-647 E-Broadway, at which address, it appears, a house of ill fame is situated. Her informant also stated that after 6 p.m. the entrance to this house from Broadway is usually closed, but that the house may be entered by the back door from East-Seward Road. Upon knocking at the door one must ask for "Shura", whereupon her son, who appears to be employed in the premises in some capacity, would open the door. Care should be taken, Mrs Rochneff stated, that the Broadway entrance to the house be guarded at the time in order to prevent the boy's escape.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
24 DEC. 1938
(CRIME BRANCH)

D.D.C. "D"

FM. 25
G. 55M-1-38

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

.....Station,

REPORT

Date.....19

Subject.....

-2-

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

Being a woman and having no one to help her ,Mrs Kochneff continued, she could not go to that place and verify the information.

Mrs Kochneff is employed at the Yee Tsoong Tobacco Company's Thorburn Road Factory (T. 50695) and her her husband is employed at the Pootung factory of the same firm. They reside at 150 Baikal Road, Flat 3-C. Mr.Kochneff is Chairman of the Union of Cossacks in Shanghai.

Mrs Kochneff states that she does not know any reason why her son should leave his home, except for the crave for adventures boys of his age often have. His reluctance to return to his parents may also be explained by fear of punishment. She also has reasons to believe that her son was under the influence of Kremla, one of the trio, and a certain Chechoslovakian named Reihart (?) who is in Shanghai at present.

Dr Comm
information

A. Prokofiev
D. S. I.

D.S.I.
28/12.

For D. C. (Special Branch).

P. A. to D. C. (Sp. Br.)

S1

MEMO.

Has Dr. S. Prokofiev any views on this?

D. C. Special Branch.

22/12

TRANSLATION FROM THE RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER
"RUSSKIY GOLOS" (Russian Voice) Edited and Published
by the Russky Golos Publishing Company at 2II,
Yangtszepoo Road, Wayside, Shanghai, on Sunday,
December I8, I938.

Three youthful sea-farers are fooling the
Press and the Police of Shanghai.
Who are Petroff, Kremlia and Cordell?

On December I2, George Petroff, I7 years of age, Kremlia I6 and Teddy Cordell I5, have been brought back to Shanghai from Kobe, having left Shanghai on the S.S. "Anna Maersk" as stowaways en route for Mexico. They were taken off the ship at Kobe, where they caused a great deal of anxiety to the Police in the capacity of unfortunate orphans, and without guardianship. They were sent back to Shanghai and handed over to the Japanese Consular Police. On being questioned here they made the statement to the effect that they were orphans, had nobody to take care of them in Shanghai and were therefore taken beyond Soochow Creek, given a dollar each and let out. The same day and in the subsequent days these youths were interviewed by reporters of Russian and foreign newspapers, to whom they gave out the information as it appeared in all the newspapers. The general feeling of sympathy was with the youthful unsuccessful travellers to America and in the "Evening News" dated December I6 an appeal was published to the Shanghai public to give shelter and food to three youthful "sea-farers". We appreciated the honourable and excellent expression of feeling by the "not a sportsman".

Let us, however, now turn to reality. Over two months ago, the Police authorities were informed of the disappearance from his home and unknown whereabouts of one Yuri Kochneff, a resident of Wayside, and of two others residing in the French Concession. What action did the Police take in this matter? None. All this while the three fugitives from parental roofs had been loafing amidst the ruins of Wayside, lived on launches, worked in dens, etc. where each proprietor made use of them the way he chose. We wish to assist the Police and point out to them where the youthful trio is hiding whilst their parents are looking for them and to whom the Police for some reason render no assistance in this respect. One of the fugitives has already returned to his parents at 344 Rue Bourgeat, two of the others are being sheltered at the Salvation Army in Amoy Road and or are to be found in suspicious dens at 3 and II9 Wayside Road, frequent cinemas and are in a word "going to the dogs". George Petroff is really Uri Kochneff, regarding whom the parents reported to the Police on several occasions and requested their assistance in locating the fugitive. His family are well off, but both the parents being at work they cannot execute detective work, as well. Uri Kochneff for the past several months has been enticed by some suspicious characters to leave his home and get a job with them, in which they succeeded in inducing him. The Czech boy Kremlia also has a father and family and has been enticed in a similar manner from them.

P. L. & B. O. (Sp. Br.)

Is it really so difficult to find these youths on launches and in the dens at addresses as mentioned or at the Salvation Army, where they from time to time eat and sleep. Their photographs are in the newspaper offices and have appeared in the papers. The Police Forces of Shanghai are in possession of reports from their parents as to their being missing and requesting that they be located.

Why is it that the Police authorities ignore these reports and take no action whatsoever to close down dens and deal with the persons who make it their business to entice youths to "mysterious" earnings and subsequent commission of criminal actions following their disapparance from parental roofs.

We have been requested to publish the appeal that parents would be given assistance to locate the youthful fugitives and if located to hand them over to the following adaresses:- George Petroff alias Uri Kochneff Baikal Road Lane 150 house 3, flat 4 or to the Office of Russian Emigrants', 211 Yangtszepoo Road, and the young Czech Kremlin to the Jugo-Slavian Consulate, by whom he will be handed over to his father.

All that the youths are relating about themselves in the Press and to which much attention has been given is nothing but sheer nonsense and false tales. The children are under evil influence.

RUSSKY GOLOS. 18-12-38.

Три юных мореплавателя дурачат прессу и полицію Шанхая.

Кто такіе Петров, Кремля и Корделл?

12 Декабря в Шанхай из Кобе доставлены Георгій Петров 17 лѣт, Кремля 16 лѣт и Тедди Кордел 15 лѣт, отправившіеся из Шанхая на п/х «Анна Маэрск» зайцами в путешествіе в Мексику. Они были сняты с парохода в Кобе, гдѣ доставили не мало забот полиціи, как несчастные сиротки, безпризорники и отправлены обратно в Шанхай, гдѣ переданы японской консульской полиціи. Здѣсь при допросѣ они дали показаніе, что они сироты, никого в Шанхаѣ не имѣют и поэтому были доставлены за Сучоу крик, снабжены каждый по доллару и отпущены с миром. В тот же день и в послѣдующіе дни эта молодежь была захвачена сотрудниками русских и иностранных газет, которым они давали всѣм извѣстныя по газетам свѣдѣнія. Общее сочувстіе было на сторонѣ юных неудачников путешествія в Америку, и в «Вечерней Зарѣ» от 16 Декабря появилось обращеніе к шанхайцам дать кров и кусок хлѣба трем юным «мореплавателям». Благородный и прекрасный порыв «не спортсмена» мы привѣтствуем.

Но теперь обратимся к дѣйствительности. Два с лишним мѣсяца тому назад полицейским властям было заявлено об исчезновеніи из дома и безвѣстном отсутствіи Юрія Кочнева, на Вейсайдѣ, и двух других на французской концессіи. Что предприняла полиція в этом направленіи? Ровно ничего. За все это время трое бѣжавших из под родительскаго крова скитались по развалинам Вейсайда, жили на катерах, работали в притонах, гдѣ их каждый по своему эксплоатировал и использовал. Мы хотим помоч полиціи и указать, гдѣ скрываются юные безпризорники, которых разыскивают родители и которым полицейскія власти почему то не оказывают в этом помощи. Один из безпризорников Тедди Кордел уже вернулся домой к родителям, 344 Рю Буржа, двое других находят пріют в Сальвейшен арміи на Амой род и в подозрительных притонах 3 и 119 Вейсайд род, бывают в синема и буквально падают на дно. Георгій Петров — это Юрій Кочнев, о котором родители не раз заявляли полиціи и просили ее содѣйствія в розыскѣ сбѣжавшаго. Семья эта обезпеченная, но ввиду того, что оба супруга служат, не могут удѣлить время на детективную работу. Юрій Кочнев в послѣдніе мѣсяцы сбивался какими то подозрительными людьми к бѣгству из дома и к поступленію к ним на службу, что он и выполнил. Называющій себя чехом Кремля, также имѣет отца и семью и тоже завлечен темными силами и отбит от дому.

Неужели в самом дѣлѣ так трудно разыскать этих юнцов на катерах, в притонах по указанным выше адресам или в Сальвешен арміи, гдѣ они періодически и питаются и спят. Вѣдь фотографіи их имѣются в газетах. В полиціях Шанхая лежат заявленія родителей об исчезновеніи мальчиков с просьбой о их розыскѣ.

Почему же в самом дѣлѣ полицейскія власти игнорируют эти заявленія и буквально ничего не предпринимают в дѣлѣ ликвидаціи притонов и обезвреживанія людей, сманивающих малолѣтних на «таинственные» заработки и толкающіе их в конечном итогѣ на преступленія и бѣгство из под родительскаго крова.

Нас просят довести до свѣдѣнія Шанхайцев просьбу, — помоч родителям найти юных бѣглецов и, буде их встрѣтят, доставить Георгія Петрова, на самом дѣлѣ Юрія Кочнева домой на Байкал род лейн 150 кв 3 фл. 4 или в Управленіе по дѣлам Российских эмигрантов, 211 Янцепу род, а юнаго чеха Кремля в Юго-Славское консульство, гдѣ он будет передан отцу.

Все, что эти юноши говорят о себѣ и чему в газетах посвящено много вниманія, сплошная выдумка и ложь.

Дѣтей используют темныя силы.

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by the Russky Golos Publishing Company at 2II,
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TEDDY SATSKIN

Is it really so difficult to find these youths on launches and in the dens at addresses as mentioned or at the Salvation Army, where they from time to time eat and sleep. Their photographs are in the newspaper offices and have appeared in the papers. The Police Forces of Shanghai are in possession of reports from their parents as to their being missing and requesting that they be located.

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FM. 2
G. 15000-1-38

Misc. File No. 929/38.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

(2)

REPORT

Louza. Station,

Date Dec. 13th, 1938.

Subject Re attached note from P.A. to the D.C. Crime.

Made by D.S.I. Suhoff. Forwarded by.

Sir,

On 13-12-38 articles appeared at the "North China Daily News" and the "Shanghai Times" according to which the missing boy Teddy Satskin, together with two other youths stowed away from Shanghai on board on s.s. "Amna Maersk" and were departed from Kobe on board of s.s. "Suwa Maru" which arrived in Shanghai on 12-12-38.

Newspaper cuttings attached hereto.

The French Police were informed by the undersigned.

Detective Yankovsky stated that the French Police received no information from the Japanese Consular Police and are not aware of the present whereabouts of the youthful adventurers.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

Suhoff.

D. S. I.

D. C. (Crime)

Information.

Sen. Det. i/c.

D.D.O."A" Div.

CRIME REGISTRY
Misc Index: Sheng
14/12

THE SHANGHAI TIMES, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1938

BACK AFTER SEARCH FOR ADVENTURE

Here are the three youthful Shanghai adventurers who set out for Mexico on the s.s. Anna Maersk without the formality of securing tickets. They ended their sea-going "hitch hike" in Japan where the skipper of the vessel handed them over to the Japanese authorities. They were brought back to Shanghai, free of charge, on a Japanese vessel. From left to right they are: Teddy Cordell (15), British, George Petroff (17), British, and Emanuel Kremla (16), Czech.

(Press Union.)

Youthful Stowaways Back in Shanghai

Journey to Mexico Ends In Kobe Detention Cells

George Eugen Petroff, 17, Henry Emanuel Kremla, 16, and Teddy Connell, 15, were amongst those who arrived in the ss. Suwa Maru, when that ship entered port from Japan yesterday after their intended trip to Mexico as stowaways in one of the lifeboats of the ss. Anna Maersk, ended behind the bars of a detention cell in Kobe.

"We had a lot of fun," said one of the youngsters, and had hoped to enter Mexico, where we had been told, many Russians had settled and were doing well. Had it not been for the storm which the ss. Anna Maersk encountered between Shanghai and Japan, I dare say that we would have reached our destination."

Cordell and Petroff both claim British nationality whilst Kremla is said to be a Czechoslovakian. He also has the distinction of being the only member of the trio ever to have worked before.

Asked as to what they were going to do, now that they found themselves back in Shanghai, the boys agreed that they would look for jobs, although they thought it hopeless to find any. They said that they were going to sleep on launches tied up along the Bund, as they had done prior to undertaking their adventurous journey which was to land them where they had started.

Upon their arrival the Japanese Consular Police received them at the wharf but the boys were released soon afterwards, being given $1 each "to keep them out of getting into further trouble."

FM. 1

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE.
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai, 10/12/ 1938.

To D.D.O. "C"

Would you please pass on attached file to D.S.I. Belshento, this is the boy I think he is looking for as an associate of the boy wanted for questioning re medals presented by S.S.P.C.A. that are alleged to have been pawned

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
10 DEC. 1938
To Deputy Commissioner (Crime)

Date 5/12/38.

(Crime Branch) Office Notes

Det. Lonza.

The attached photograph is of TEDDY SATSKIN (Russian) age 13 who has been missing from his home at 344. Route Bourgeat since Tuesday 29/11/38.

He is reported as being associated with a Czechoslovakian orphan named Cramler.

He is reported to have been visiting the Salvation Army shelter on Amory Rd will you get D.S.I. Sutoff to make enquiries please & should he be located hand him over to the French Police.

His mother is Mrs. Connell of same address.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
5 DEC. 1938
To Deputy Commissioner (Crime)

FM. 2
G. 5000-9-3.

Misc. File No. 929/38.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Louza Station,

REPORT

Date Dec. 9th., 19 38.

Subject Re attached note from P.A. to the D.C. "Crime".

Made by D.S.I. Suhoff Forwarded by

Sir,

With reference to the instructions on the attached note the undersigned begs to report that at 3.p.m. 5-12-38, he visited the Salvation Army Shelter, 180 Amoy Road and there interviewed Mr. Slater, in-charge of the institution. The photograph of missing boy Teddy Satskin was shown to him, but he stated that this boy never visited the Salvation Army Shelter, and Mr. Slater knew nothing regarding the Czechoslovakian boy named Cramler. However he promised to inform the undersigned should any of the two boys appear there.

Detective Yankovsky of the French Police was communicated with and it was learned from him that Teddy Satskin ran away from his home on several occasions, claiming to be ill treated by his mother and was hiding in the North of Creek area, where according to the information received by the French detectives, he is believed to be now.

D. C. (Crime)

I am, Sir,

Yours Obediently,

D.S.I.

Sen. Det. i/c Louza.

D.D.O."A" Div.